

INTELLOFAX 29

FEB 1982

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 26 May 1952

SUBJECT Infantry Institute at Lipnik nad Bečvou:
Chemical Warfare Training

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF
INFO. NO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIRED

DO NOT CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

1. Twenty hours of classroom instruction in chemical warfare are included in the 1951/1952 school year curriculum; during previous years the total was 10 hours. The reason given for the increased emphasis on this type of training was that the Western nations are preparing for the use of chemical agents in time of war and are using gas in Korea.
2. Chemical warfare lectures to Institute students cover the effects of various gases, decontamination techniques, and the use of protective clothing, e.g. rubber clothing, protective capes, improvised devices. In addition to this classroom instruction, students participate in two 30-minute drills each week in the use of gas masks and protective capes. Students are timed when putting on their gas masks; to increase their speed, units compete with each other. Seven to ten seconds is considered good time in putting on a gas mask from the moment an alert is sounded. The beginning and end of an alert is announced on the school public address system. Apart from this training, chemical warfare problems are also included in tactics instruction: students solving tactics problems must take into account possible use of chemical agents.
3. Staff personnel of the Institute receive instruction on decontamination and in the use of gas masks and protective capes during the one afternoon a week when they attend classes.*
4. Every Saturday a gas alert is sounded at the Institute during which all military personnel in the building must put on their gas masks and continue working. Only instructors who are lecturing are not required to wear gas masks. The length of these alerts has been gradually extended. In May 1951 when they were introduced they lasted for 10 minutes; by December 1951 they had been extended to an hour.

RETURN TO RECORDS CENTER
IMMEDIATELY AFTER USE
JOB 52322 BOX 52

25X1

CLASSIFICATION

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

5. At the beginning of the 1951/1952 school year the Institute chemical warfare instructor received orders to establish a chemical warfare training area on the drill grounds. It was to have a network of trenches with gas shelters big enough for one infantry platoon and its equipment. Construction work has begun on this area at the Institute; similar training grounds are to be constructed at other military installations. At the Institute students are to be trained in both defensive and offensive warfare when gas is being used.
6. All chemical warfare material used in the training of Institute students and staff personnel is of German origin.
7. At the end of September or the beginning of October 1951, all military personnel and civilian employees at the Infantry Institute had their measurements taken for the new gas mask. (See attachment 1.) During lectures in November 1951, staff personnel were shown various items for personal protection against chemical agents and among them was a new gas mask. The instructor stated that the mask was the Russian type and that the masks for which measurements had been taken would be the same kind. He also stated that the gas masks of German origin which are now being used by the Czechoslovak Army would soon be replaced by the new type. No mention was made of where the masks are being or will be manufactured, or whether they would be supplied to the Czechoslovak Army by the USSR where they are being produced on a large scale. The new mask is made of thin, soft, smooth rubber, light yellow in color. It has no straps and covers the entire head. The eye pieces are set in the rubber and do not protrude. An annular hose, made of strong grey rubber, is permanently attached to the gas mask. The end of the hose has a threaded metal tip which is screwed into the filter. The filter is oblong and flat with an intake opening at one end. The mask, hose and filter are placed in a simple linen container when not in use. The container has a strap and is carried over the right shoulder, with the container resting on the left hip. According to the instructor, the effective durability of the filter is about three hours in deadly concentration of gases.
8. The current stocks of protective materials and the chemical warfare training methods seem to indicate that only gases similar to those used in World War I (mainly iperit) are anticipated. During one chemical warfare lecture the instructor stated that the Western nations had produced a gas affecting the nervous system; however, he did not comment on the effectiveness of present equipment against such a gas.
9. No mention was made of precautions to be taken against either biological warfare or atomic warfare.

* Comment: These afternoons of instructions for staff personnel are described in

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

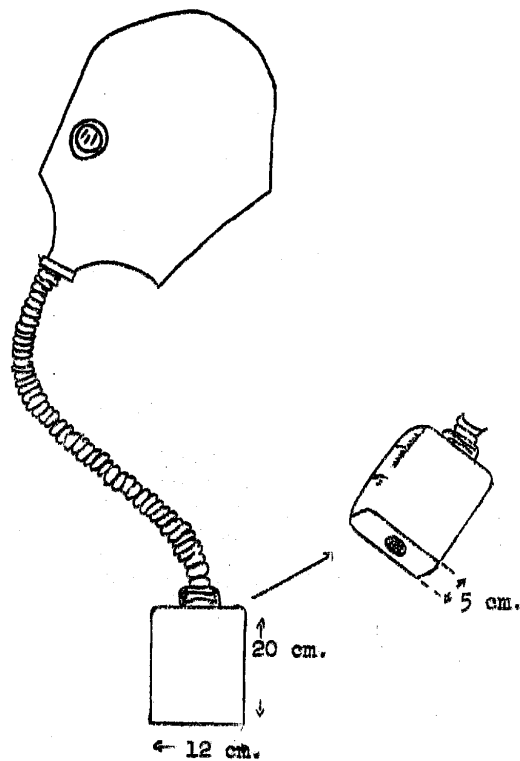
SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25X11A

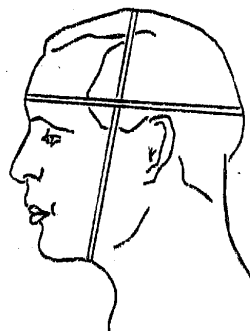
ATTACHMENT I

The New Type Gas Mask

Approximate design and
dimensions



Measurements taken for
the mask



SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

Standards of lubricants; German.

Photostats of lubricating oil [] from Die Technik, No 11, 1949
25X1
(gives in part data on U.S.A. Gargoyle oils), of typewritten DIN standards for
lubricating oils and air filter oil, and other oil specifications (the latter are
illegible). DIN means Deutsche Industrienorm, i. e. German industrial standard.
If these standards have been accepted and are valid at present (i.e., the
documents in question do not represent rough drafts of tentative standards which
have been rejected), the contents of the typewritten sheets listing ~~DIN-standards-~~
them must be generally available in a published form.

RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY

25X1
[]

June 4, 1952.